



CALFED  
BAY-DELTA  
PROGRAM

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## Memorandum

Date: January 15, 1998

To: Reviewers of CALFED Bay-Delta Program Administrative Draft Programmatic EIS/EIR

From: Lester A. Snow

Subject: Review of Agency Administrative Draft Programmatic EIS/EIR

The CALFED Bay-Delta Program Programmatic EIS/EIR will consist of several documents. The main document will include the standard information common to all environmental documents, i.e., Purpose and Need statement, description of alternatives, description of existing conditions, description of impact analysis, etc. The main document will be supported by a number of technical appendices which generally expand upon the information in the main document. Some of the technical appendices are:

- expanded descriptions of the Water Quality Program Plan and the Ecosystem Restoration Plan;
- expanded description of the interrelationships among the various Program elements;
- expanded descriptions of the Program alternatives including the No Action Alternative;
- expanded descriptions of the affected environment and impact analysis described in the Programmatic EIS/EIR;
- expanded description of the Program's analyses that lead to the alternative with the technical resource management advantages; and
- expanded description of the interrelationships among water use-efficiency, water recycling, water transfers, water storage (surface and groundwater), conveyance improvements to improve water supply reliability (Water Management Strategy)

The enclosed Agency Administrative Draft Programmatic EIS/EIR (Admin draft) is limited to the main document absent a discussion about the Program's efforts in identifying the alternative with the technical resource management advantages. However, there is an outline of the Program's efforts to identify the alternative with the technical resource management advantages in Chapter 2.

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### CALFED Agencies

California    The Resources Agency  
                  Department of Fish and Game  
                  Department of Water Resources  
                  California Environmental Protection Agency  
                  State Water Resources Control Board

Federal      Environmental Protection Agency  
                  Department of the Interior  
                  Fish and Wildlife Service  
                  Bureau of Reclamation  
                  U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Department of Agriculture  
                  Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Department of Commerce  
                  National Marine Fisheries Service

Reviewers

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The technical appendices would be helpful in your review of the Admin draft but we believe there is sufficient information in the Admin draft to allow you to come to a decision as to whether or not we have adequately described the consequences of the twelve alternatives. The technical appendices will be part of the Public draft. The information on selection of the alternative with the technical resource management advantages is the start of the process which will eventually lead us to the "preferred alternative". As such, it did not focus on the 12 alternatives and does not contribute to their evaluation in the Admin draft. However, this information is key to explaining how the Program arrived at the alternative with technical resource management advantages and will figure prominently in the Public draft.